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"The ability of an artist to serve as agent in a progressive civilization, as public teacher and benefactor, is, I believe, chiefly due to one singular benefit which he confers, namely, that he introduces through art into the life of the people a principle of moderation and restraint. Art has many a joyous function; it is the office of the artist to create the thing that is marked out as a joy not for the moment but forever, a thing in the contemplation of which we incessantly and evermore renew our joy. Art delights, art refines, but art also elevates and ennobles, and it does this by weaving the wide diversity of things sensual, things passionate, and things impulsive into a flowing unity by subjugating and submitting the wild, crude things of life to the law of beauty, by introducing into things and through them into the life of the people the element of moderation and restraint. . . . The American people are intrinsically susceptible to these finer influences that Karl Bitter was but one of a vanguard to express."—FELIX ADLER.



GENERAL FRANZ SIGEL

KARL BITTER

ERECTED ON

RIVERSIDE DRIVE, NEW YORK CITY